

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 BIB-01 IO-13
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P R 271530Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3825
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 7347

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, GE
SUBJECT: US RESPONSE TO GDR PROTEST OF SPECIAL RIAS PROGRAM

REFS: A) BERLIN 7312; B) STATE 309626; C) USBERLIN 2727;
D) BONN 21293

1. EMBASSY OFFICER MADE RIAS DEMARCHE TO MFA US DESK
OFFICER TEUTSCHBEIN AND HERR KEHL AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL B
(NO ONE WAS AVAILABLE AT MFA BEFORE DECEMBER 27.) TEUTSCHBEIN
RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT THE GDR POSITION AS EXPRESSED
BY SIEMENS ON DECEMBER 16 (REFTEL) STILL STOOD. HE RESPONDED
TO POINT ABOUT CONTINUED GDR JAMMING OF RIAS BY REFERRING
TO PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS OF THE SUBJECT AT BERN AND ELSEWHERE.
HE REITERATED THE GDR POSITON THAT RIAS WAS RECEIVED
FREELY IN WEST BERLIN AND THAT RIAS RECEPTION IN THE GDR
JAMMING BUT MAY HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE INCREASED NUMBER
OF GDR RADIO STATIONS SERVING THE NEEDS OF THE GDR
POPULATION. HE REPEATED THAT THE GDR VIEWED THE PLANNED
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RIAS "SPECIAL BROADCAST" (CONDERSENDUNG) AS AN INTER-
FERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE GDR.

2. KEHL SAID THAT OUR RESPONSE WAS NOT SATISFACORY, BUT
THAT HE WOULD RELAY IT TO THE RESPONSIBLE GDR AUTHORITIES.
HE STATE THAT THE GDR WAS NOT PROTESTING AGAINST NORMAL

RIAS BROADCASTS, BUT AGAINST A SPECIAL BROADCAST INTENDED FOR CITIZENS OF THE GDR USING A SPECIAL TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR EAST GERMANS TO CALL. HE INSISTED THAT SUCH A "SPECIFICALLY AIMED, SPECIAL PROGRAM," INTENDED FOR THE CITIZENS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY, RAN COUNTER TO THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT AND THE PREAMBLE OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. TEUTSCHBEIN AND KEHR DID NOT REPEAT SIEMENS DECEMBER 16 STATEMENT THAT THE GDR AUTHORITIES WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PROTECT THE GDR'S INTERESTS IF THE PROGRAM TOOK PLACE.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NEITHER TEUTSCHBEIN NOR KEHR REPEATED SIEMENS'S STATEMENT ABOUT THE GDR TAKING "APPROPRIATE MEASURES," WE ASSUME WE HAVE NOT HEARD THE LAST OF THIS ISSUE FROM THE GDR. POLANSKY

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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